

Even the decisions of the regular Courts in such cases are very often subject to interference by the High Court on revision. We find as a matter of fact that such cases do involve an elaborate enquiry. Under the circumstances, I think it may not be advisable at present to invest the Bench Magistrates with powers to try such cases. With these observations, I support the principle of the Bill."

Mr. John Nidiry:—

"I seriously doubt whether the Bench Magistrates proposed to be constituted should be invested with the power to try all cases contemplated by the Bill. I think it will be safer to entrust these bodies first with powers to try cases of a simpler nature and invest them with powers to try others after a trial."

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"As regards the revision of the Criminal Procedure Code, I may say that it has been taken up and is being revised. The present Bill cannot wait for it, because it will be a long time before that is done. Being a very big measure, consisting of many Sections, I do not think that we can get through the revised Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill under preparation before at least two years."

Mr. Raman Tampi:—

"I do not mean to say that this Bill should wait."

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"As regards the power of appeal, I think that the Chapter relating to appeals will apply to summary trials also. It may however be considered by the Select Committee."

Mr. Subba Aiyar's motion was carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Rajaraja Varma, Raman Tampi, John Nidiry, Narayanan Pandalai and the Mover to report within one month.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Rao.

Carried.

THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"Sir,

I beg to introduce a Bill to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation, IV of 1079, as amended by Regulation II of 1089. It would appear that the agents of the S. P. C. A. were empowered to exercise the powers of a Police Officer under Section 23 of Regulation IV of 1056. Section 50 of the new Police Regulation has taken the place of Section 23 of the old Regulation. Section 50 does not confer a power of arrest as it was thought that the provisions in the Criminal Procedure Code were quite enough. The Society has now complained that its agents are not permitted to take cognizance of the offences under the P. C. A. Regulation. The Society has accordingly recommended that its agents should be empowered to take cognizance of the offences under the Regulation and charge offenders before the Magistrates. It is with a view to enable these agents to do so, that the present Bill has been drafted. The Clause introduced in the Bill is word for word the Section in the Criminal Procedure Code which empowers Police officers to arrest. That power may also be vested in the S. P. C. A. agents by a Notification. The Bill does not contemplate anything new and I hope it is non-contentious. With these words, I beg to move that the principle of the Bill be affirmed."

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"The Bill being a non-contentious measure, I beg to move that it need not be sent to a Select Committee and that it be taken up for consideration immediately, the operation of the Rules being suspended for the purpose."

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

The consideration of the Bill being over, Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that the Bill be taken up for final reading on a future date of which notice should be given.

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

THE LAND ACQUISITION REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that the Land Acquisition Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up for consideration.

Seconded by Dr. Kunjan Pillai.

Carried.

The consideration of the Bill over, Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that it be read on a future date of which notice should be given.

Seconded by Dr. Kunjan Pillai.

Carried.

THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Registration of Births and Deaths Bill. The Committee have not made any material alteration in the Bill. The modification proposed by them is to empower Tahsildars to compound offences under the Regulation, subject to the payment of an amount not exceeding Rs. 10. I beg to move that the Bill be taken up for consideration at once.

Seconded by Mr. Raman Tampi.

Carried.

The consideration of the Bill over, Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that the Bill be read on a future date of which notice should be given.

Seconded by Dr. Kunjan Pillai.

Carried.

THE ESTATES RENT RECOVERY REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar moved that the Estates Rent Recovery Regulation Amendment Bill be finally read and passed.

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

President:—

"The only item of business which remains to be gone through is the selection of the non-official Members for the informal Budget Committee."

Mr. Raman Tampi:—

"Sir,

With regard to this, our idea is to have the representatives of the four Divisions to represent those Divisions and one member for representing the nominated members of the Council and one to represent business interests. I give their names below:—

- (1) Mr. M. Subrahmanya Pillai for Padmanabhapuram Division.
- (2) „ G. Parameswaran Pillai for Trivandrum Division.
- (3) „ C. Raman Tampi for Quilon Division.
- (4) „ John Nidiry for Kottayam and Devicolum Divisions.
- (5) „ K. A. Krishna Aiyangar to represent non-nominated members.
- (6) „ P. J. John to represent business interests."

The Council adjourned at 1-45 p. m.

K. NARAYANAN PANDALAI,
Secretary to the Council.